

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:***Sub A17*

1. A method comprising:  
2        determining a code phase of each among a plurality of received signals; and  
4        transmitting information pertaining to a time relation between the code phases of at least one pair among the plurality of received signals.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the  
2        information comprises a time difference between the code phases.

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3. The method according to claim 1, wherein each among  
2        the plurality of received signals has a corresponding periodic code, and  
4        wherein each among the code phases relates to a predetermined position within the corresponding periodic code.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein each among  
2        the plurality of received signals is based at least in part on a corresponding direct-sequence spread spectrum modulated signal.

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5. The method according to claim 1, wherein each among  
2 the plurality of received signals is based at least in part on a corresponding  
direct-sequence pseudonoise modulated signal.

6. The method according to claim 1, the method further  
2 comprising receiving a composite signal,

wherein each among the plurality of received signals is based at  
4 least in part on at least a portion of the composite signal.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the  
2 determining a code phase of each among a plurality of received signals  
comprises calculating a correlation, for each among the plurality of received  
4 signals, between a corresponding code sequence and a signal based at least in  
part on the composite signal,

6 wherein each among the plurality of received signals has a  
corresponding periodic code, and

8 wherein each among the code phases relates to a corresponding  
predetermined position within the corresponding periodic code, and

10 wherein the code sequence relates at least in part to the  
corresponding periodic code.

8. A method comprising:

- 2 determining a code phase of a first received signal; and  
determining a code phase of a second received signal,

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- 4                   wherein the determining a code phase of a second received  
signal is based at least in part on information pertaining to a time relation  
6                   between the code phase of the first received signal and the code phase of the  
second received signal.

9.                 The method according to claim 8, wherein the

- 2                   information comprises a time difference between the code phase of the first  
received signal and the code phase of the second received signal.

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10.               The method according to claim 8, wherein the first  
2                   received signal has a corresponding periodic code and the second received  
signal has a corresponding periodic code, and

- 4                   wherein each among the code phase of the first received signal  
and the code phase of the second received signal relates to a corresponding  
6                   predetermined position within the corresponding periodic code.

11.               The method according to claim 8, wherein each among  
2                   the first received signal and the second received signal is based at least in part  
on a corresponding direct-sequence spread spectrum modulated signal.

12.               The method according to claim 8, wherein each among  
2                   the first received signal and the second received signal is based at least in part  
on a corresponding direct-sequence pseudonoise modulated signal.

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13. The method according to claim 8, the method further  
2 comprising receiving a composite signal,

wherein each among the first received signal and the second  
4 received signal is based at least in part on at least a portion of the composite  
signal.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the  
2 determining a code phase of a first received signal comprises calculating a  
correlation between a code sequence and a signal based at least in part on the  
4 composite signal,

wherein the first received signal has a corresponding periodic  
6 code and the second received signal has a corresponding periodic code, and

wherein each among the code phase of the first received signal  
8 and the code phase of the second received signal relates to a corresponding  
predetermined position within the corresponding periodic code, and

10 wherein the code sequence relates at least in part to the periodic  
code corresponding to the first received signal.

15. An apparatus comprising:

2 a receiver configured to receive a plurality of signals;

a correlator configured to determine a code phase for each  
4 among the plurality of received signals; and

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- a transmitter configured to transmit information pertaining to a  
6 time relation between the code phases of at least one pair among the plurality  
of received signals.

16. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the  
2 information comprises a time difference between the code phases.

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17. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each  
2 among the plurality of received signals has a corresponding periodic code, and  
wherein each among the code phases relates to a predetermined  
4 position within the corresponding periodic code.

18. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each  
2 among the plurality of received signals is based at least in part on a  
corresponding direct-sequence spread spectrum modulated signal.

19. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each  
2 among the plurality of received signals is based at least in part on a  
corresponding direct-sequence pseudonoise modulated signal.

20. The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the  
2 correlator is further configured to determine a code phase for each among the  
plurality of received signals at least in part by calculating a correlation, for

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- 4 each among the plurality of received signals, between a corresponding code sequence and the plurality of received signals,
- 6 wherein each among the plurality of received signals has a corresponding periodic code;
- 8 wherein each among the code phases relates to a corresponding predetermined position within the corresponding periodic code, and
- 10 wherein the corresponding code sequence relates at least in part to the corresponding periodic code.

21. An apparatus comprising:

- 2 a receiver configured to receive a first and second signal and to receive a signal comprising information pertaining to a time relation between
- 4 the code phase of the first received signal and the code phase of the second received signal, and
- 6 a correlator configured to determine a code phase of at least one of the first and second received signals with respect to a predetermined code
- 8 and to correlate the other of the first and second received signals to the predetermined code based upon the time relationship between the first and
- 10 second received signals.

22. The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the
- 2 information comprises a time difference between the code phase of the first received signal and the code phase of the second received signal.

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23. The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the  
2 correlator is further configured to determine a code phase for the second  
received signal at least in part from the information.

24. A system comprising:

- 2 a reference receiver configured to receive signals from a plurality of space vehicles and to transmit information; and
- 4 a field receiver configured to receive signals from a plurality of space vehicles and to receive the information,
- 6 wherein the reference receiver determines a reference code phase for each among at least a first one and a second one of the signals, and
- 8 wherein the information pertains at least to a time relation between the reference code phases for the first one and the second one of the signals, and
- 10 wherein the field receiver determines a field code phase for the first one of the signals, and
- 12 wherein the field receiver determines a field code phase for the second one of the signals at least in part from the information.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the information  
2 comprises a time difference between the reference code phases for the first one and the second one of the signals.